

31 NOTE MUSIC BY BILL COATES

Fingerings for alto recorder

The following fingerings are derived from a 31-note alto recorder chart of fingerings compiled by Rick Lilienthal in January 1984. Ian Shanahan has provided some further fingerings, which in some cases are technically and musically more successful. In both cases, fingerings were obtained on a Moeck Rottenburgh alto recorder (a popular, high quality instrument with modern bore characteristics, the exterior of the instrument only being a replica of one by Rottenburgh). Naturally, for other sizes and/or makes of recorder, one may need to modify the fingerings in order to give the same results. The tuning of the notes is quite sensitive, requiring much careful listening and complete familiarity with the behaviour of each instrument for perfect results.

Fingering Tablature

- (a) \circ = open fingerhole
- (b) ϕ = slight shading of the fingerhole (almost completely open)
- (c) \bullet, \circ = fingerhole approximately half open
- (d) \bullet = "pinched" thumbhole (thumbhole vented in order to facilitate the performance of 2nd- and higher-register notes).
- (e) \bullet' = slight venting of the fingerhole (almost completely closed)
- (f) \bullet = closed fingerhole
- (g) [] = an optional procedure which may be necessary on some instruments

(h) N = standard or common alternate fingering employed in 12-note music for recorder

RL,IS = fingerings provided by Rick Lilienthal and Ian Shanahan, respectively

Note that the precise amount of fingerhole closure in (b) to (e) above will vary from fingering to fingering and instrument to instrument, even though the same tablature symbol is used. That is, fingering tablatures with these symbols are always approximate: given fingerings are relative and not absolute. In each chart below, the first fingering to appear for a given pitch is the one most favoured in the performance of the piece the chart refers to. Each fingering for a given pitch yields different dynamic and/or timbral results. This is a crucial consideration in the choice of fingerings, as, for example, the timbre of a particular fingering may be used to mask or enhance the perception of a small pitch-change as in the many single diesis steps which occur in the following pieces: for example, compare the effect of going from D natural to D half-sharp by using the first and then the second D natural fingering in conjunction with the first D half-sharp fingering (here the related timbres generated by related fingerings tend to obscure the pitch-change, and vice-versa). Similarly, a sudden dynamic change resulting from the choice of a particular fingering may be inappropriate musically. Finally, it is interesting to realize that separate fingerings are given for notes regarded as being equivalent in 12-note equal temperament (e.g. C sharp and D flat) here, a practice which was prevalent in the fingering charts of Renaissance and Baroque recorder treatises!

(1) 31st Night (or what you will)

Dieses: 1 4 4 1 1 1 1 5 1 3

Dieses: 1 3

A handwritten musical score consisting of three staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The second staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of two sharps (D#). The third staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of four sharps (A#).

The music consists of three measures. Each measure contains a single note on each staff. The notes are represented by small circles. In the first measure, the notes are solid black. In the second measure, the notes are hollow circles with black dots. In the third measure, the notes alternate: the first note is solid black, the second is hollow with a dot, and the third is solid black again.

(2) The Swing

Dieses: I II I I II I II I L_o

as above as above as above as above

IS IS RL RL

as above

N(B flat 12 e.t.)

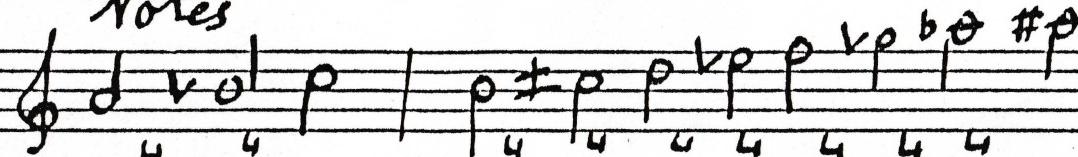
RL

PITCH SYSTEM:

C^{\natural}	C^{\sharp}	$C^{\#}$	D^{\flat}	D^{\flat}	D^{\natural}
↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
$C^{\frac{1}{2}\text{sharp}}$	$C\text{ sharp}$	$D\text{ flat}$	$D^{\frac{1}{2}\text{flat}}$		
1 diesis sharp	2 dieses sharp	3 dieses sharp from C^{\natural}	4 dieses sharp from C^{\natural}		
				1 diesis flat from D^{\natural}	

8. Minor Tone Melody

Notes



Dieser

A handwritten musical score consisting of six staves of music. The first staff starts with a treble clef, a common time signature, and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The subsequent staves switch between bass and treble clefs, and change time signatures frequently (e.g., 9/8, 5/4, 3/4, 2/4). The music includes various note heads, stems, and rests, with some notes having horizontal dashes underneath them. The score ends with a double bar line and repeat dots at the end of the sixth staff.

9.

The Swing ~ Perfect Fourth and Dimin.

60 steps of one Dimin.

Note used

Recorder fingerings

$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{5}{4}$	$\frac{7}{8}$	$\frac{9}{8}$	$\frac{11}{8}$	$\frac{13}{8}$	$\frac{15}{8}$
$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{5}{4}$	$\frac{7}{8}$	$\frac{9}{8}$	$\frac{11}{8}$	$\frac{13}{8}$	$\frac{15}{8}$

N = normal fingering (12 tone)

N

N